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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

Auth: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Date: 31 MAR 1978 By: 028

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT

Partisan Activities in Central and Southern Russia and Estonian SSR

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ORIGIN

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the

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INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT

Central Russia

1. Partisans control a heavily wooded area between Morshansk and Saratov, estimated by one informant to be about 400 km long (NE-SE) and 200 km wide (NE-SW). The Saratov-Moscow pipe line passes through this area and is heavily guarded by Soviet troops who, so far, have not engaged the partisans in any major actions.
2. The partisans, equipped with rifles, machine guns, AT guns, and light field artillery up to 105 mm, are reported to be well organized under the leadership of former Red Army officers. The ranks are frequently increased by deserters. In June 1946, several members of the guard company at PW Camp 64 near Morshansk went over to the partisans, according to a PW who was an inmate of the stockade at that time.

Donets Basin

3. Twice during the summer of 1946, partisans armed with rifles and machine guns raided a coal mine in Stalino and plundered its food stores. Partisans in this area are alleged to be composed of: a) guerillas who fought the Germans and are now unwilling to return to normal existence; b) DPs repatriated from Germany; and c) Russian PWs returned from German camps.

Estonian SSR

4. Partisan activity centers around a wooded region some 40 km south of Tallinn and south of the railroad line Tallinn-Narva-Leningrad. During the summer of 1946, repeated attacks were made on Red Army soldiers (Estonians drafted into the ranks) guarding German PW work details. It is said that after an initial show of resistance, the guards joined the partisans. Churchill's Fulton University speech has been summarized and given wide distribution by the partisans.

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